

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Ensor Farm

## 2. Location

street &amp; number 23101 Mt. Ephraim Road \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Dickerson ☒ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district

state Maryland \_\_\_\_\_ county Montgomery

## 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Harry M. &amp; F. C. Ensor

street &amp; number 23030 Mt. Ephraim Road telephone no.: 301-349-5335

city, town Dickerson state and zip code MD 20842

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse liber 2766

street &amp; number \_\_\_\_\_ folio 349

city, town Rockville state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date \_\_\_\_\_ federal \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state

## 7. Description

Survey No. M: 12-43

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☒ unaltered  
☐ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This large, concrete block, gambrel roof dairy barn is one of the most elaborate of the County's remaining, functioning 20th century dairy barns. Sixteen bays long and five bays wide, the barn has two symmetrical small wings on each side, one housing the grainery on the west side and the other for the dairy on the east side. The walls of the barn are constructed of two types of concrete block: grey, rock faced block for the body of the walls; and smooth, rusticated blocks that are tinted yellow, used as quoins at the corners of the building and around the windows and doors. The gables are covered with German siding and the north (front) elevation contains two large, cross-braced doors which slide diagonally upward to close the opening to the hayloft. Above this opening, the gambrel roof extends to form a peak which shelters the hoist. Two more cross-braced doors slide horizontally on a track to close the double opening in the center of the north elevation at the milking floor level.

The gambrel roof is covered with sheet metal. On the ridge are mounted three large sheet metal ventilators, each topped with a weathervane in the shape of a cow. The windows are six-light metal sash, with the bottom two lights fixed and the upper sash hinged to tilt inward. Inside the barn has two rows of stanchions for milking cows. The floor is concrete, and in the concrete ramp at the northwest corner of the barn is inscribed, "Grimes and Beall, builders, July 4, 1931."

Two concrete stave silos and one terra cotta block silo stand to the south of the barn. The property is landscaped with mature boxwood shrubs and flowers. The one obvious change to the building is in the dairy. Milk production has been so successful in recent years that a new bulk tank for milk had to be installed. Too large for the existing dairy room, the new tank projects through the wall so that a large proportion of it stands outside. This change was made in 1980, as evidenced by the date scratched in the cement surrounding the newly made hole in the wall.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. M: 12-43

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1931 Builder/Architect Grimes and Beall

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Ensor barn is significant for its appearance, its condition, and its continuing use as part of a thriving dairy farm in northwest Montgomery County.

In the tradition of the early concrete block dairy barns, this one made decorative use of the exciting, then-new material. Grey, rock faced block simulating rough quarried ashlar stonework is accented with smooth faced, yellow tinted, rusticated blocks which form quoins and window and door surrounds. Lintels and sills are also cast in yellow concrete. In this barn, the contrast of color and texture provides a richness lacking in later concrete block barns.

The barn and dairy are spotless. Approximately 190 cows are milked in this barn each day, a large number in a county where dairy farms are rapidly becoming a relic of the past. Three generations of the Ensor family currently work the farm. The farm was in the family when this barn was built in 1931. Thus it stands as a significant landmark physically and historically in the story of farming in early 20th century Montgomery County.

Survey No. M: 12-43

**Quadrangle scale** \_\_\_\_\_

[illegible]

291

25'

292

293

690 000 FEET (MD)

77° 22' 34"

31





M: 12-43

Ensor Farm

23101 Mt. Ephraim Road

Dickerson, MD

Andrea Rebeck 1987

Looking southwest